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DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

COUNTERTERRORIST CENTER

TERRORISM REVIEW

DECEMBER 1997

APPROVED FOR RELEASE ☐
DATE: 07-25-2011

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DI TR 97-012
December 1997

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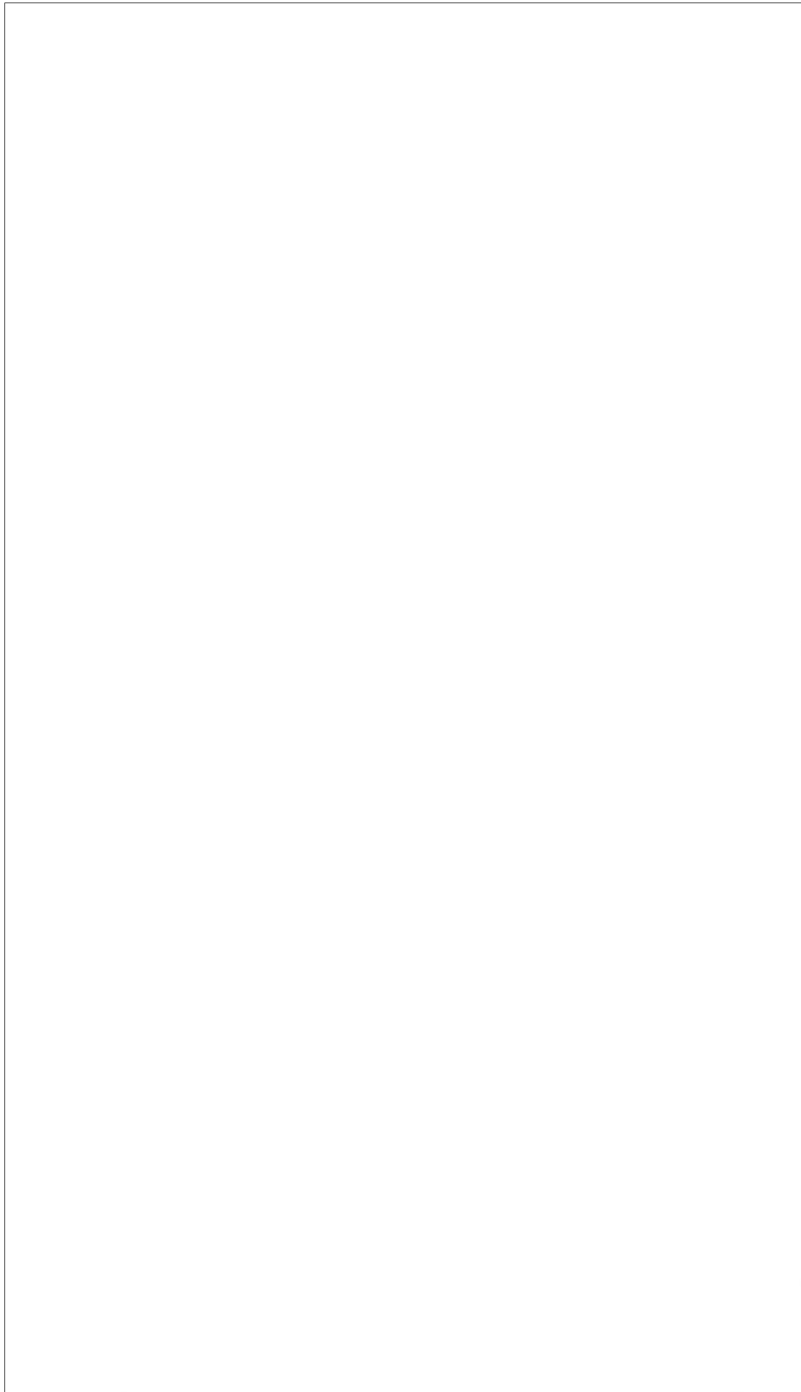
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Information available as of 15 December 1997 was used in this Review.

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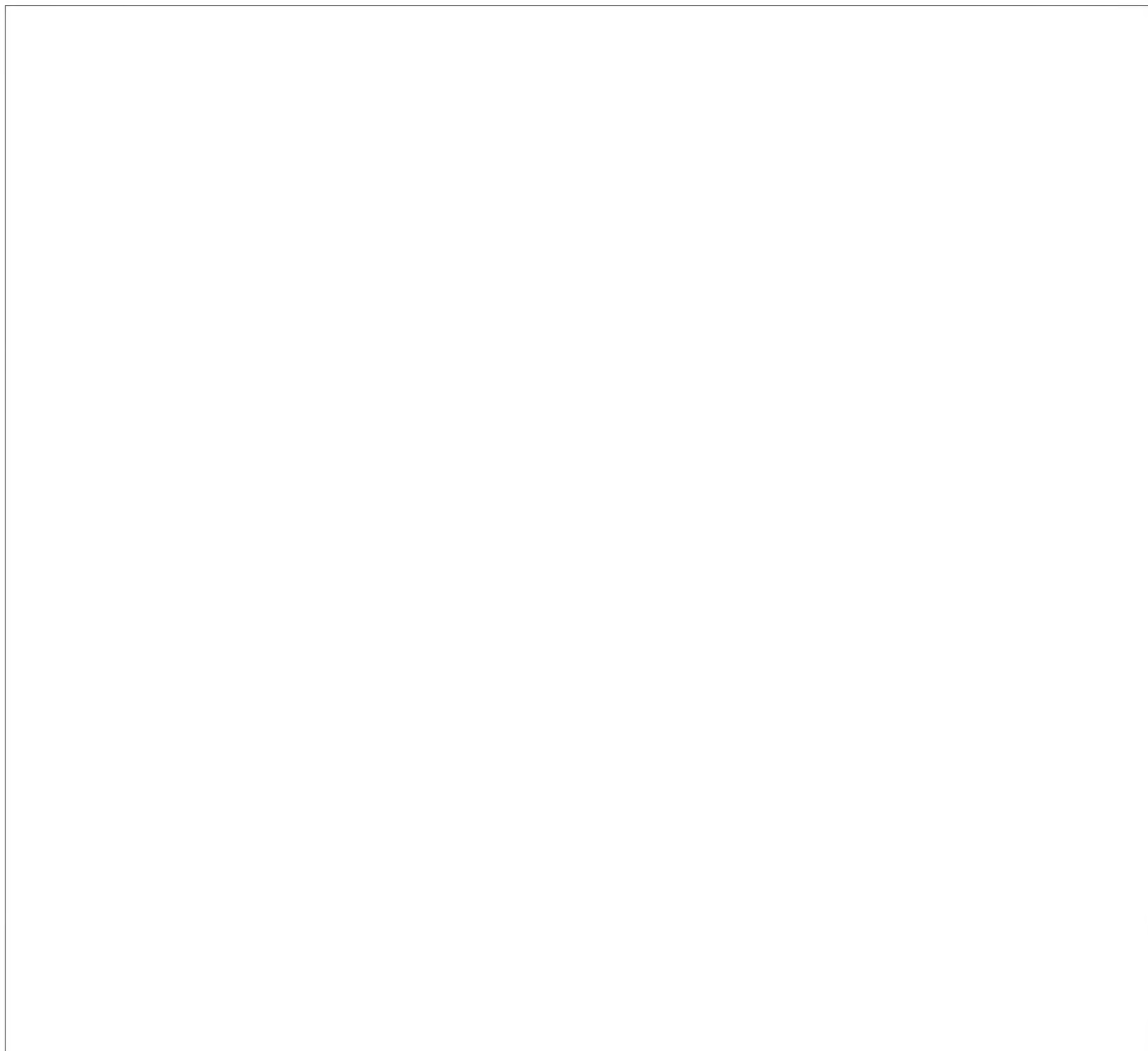


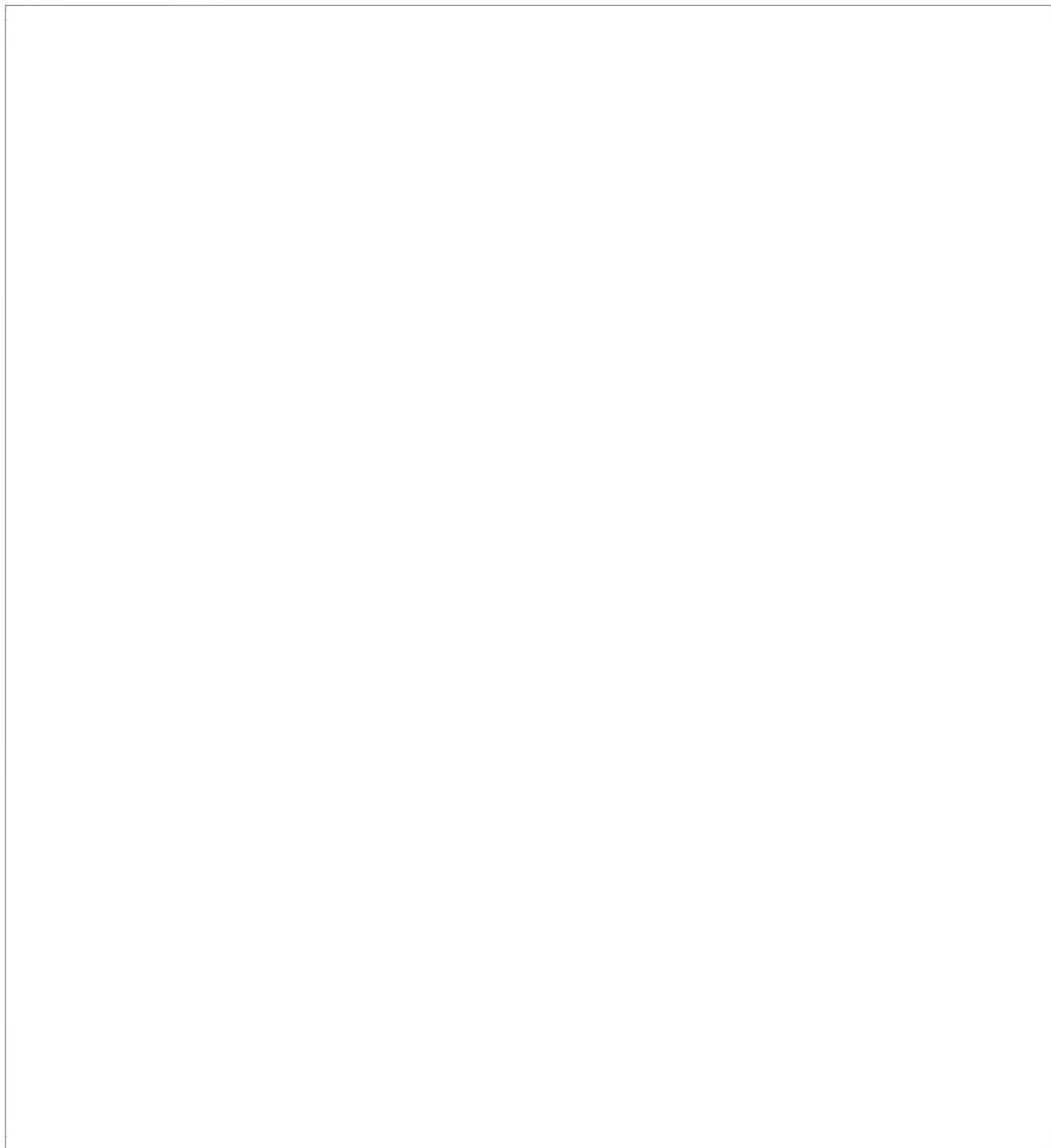
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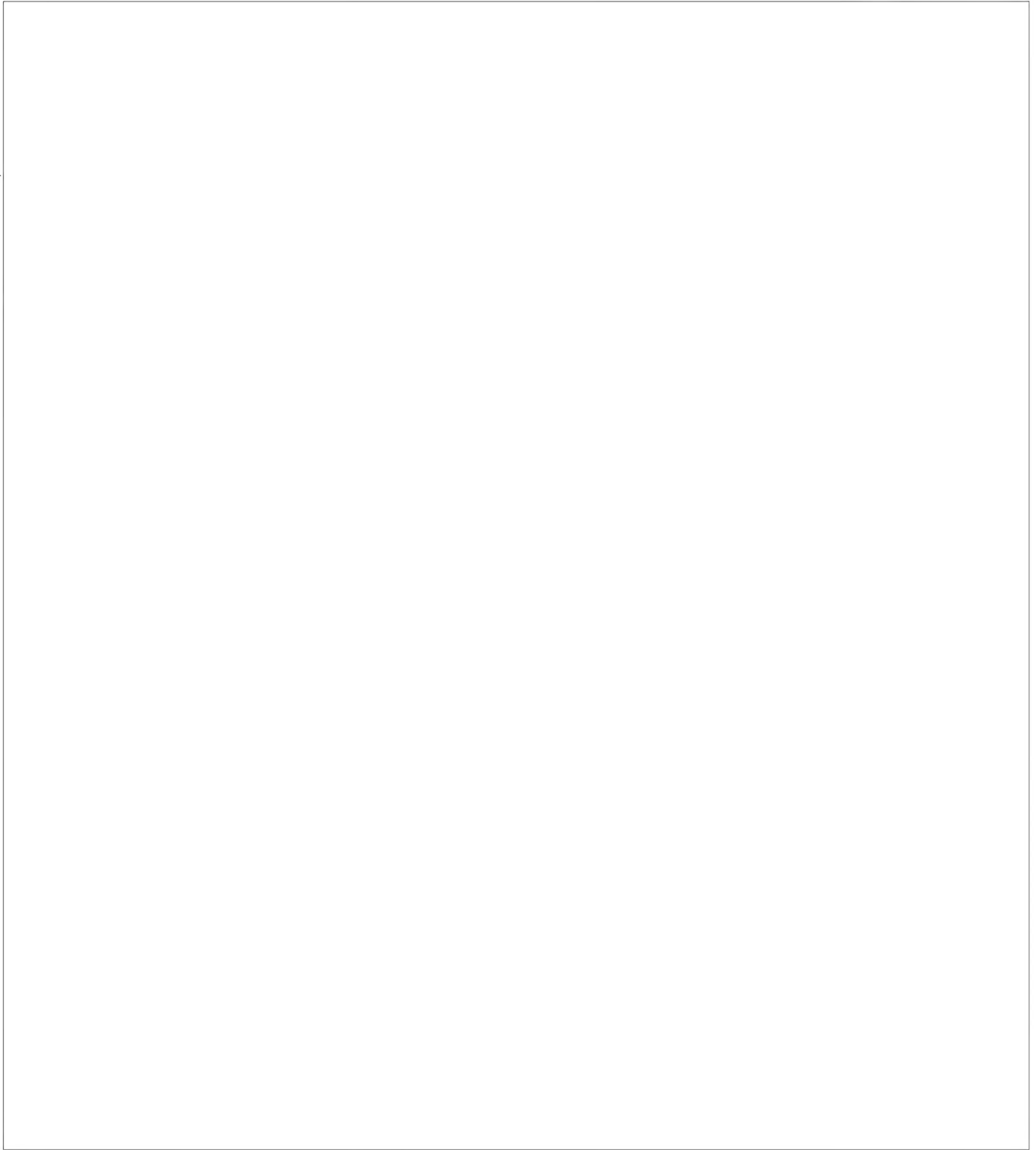








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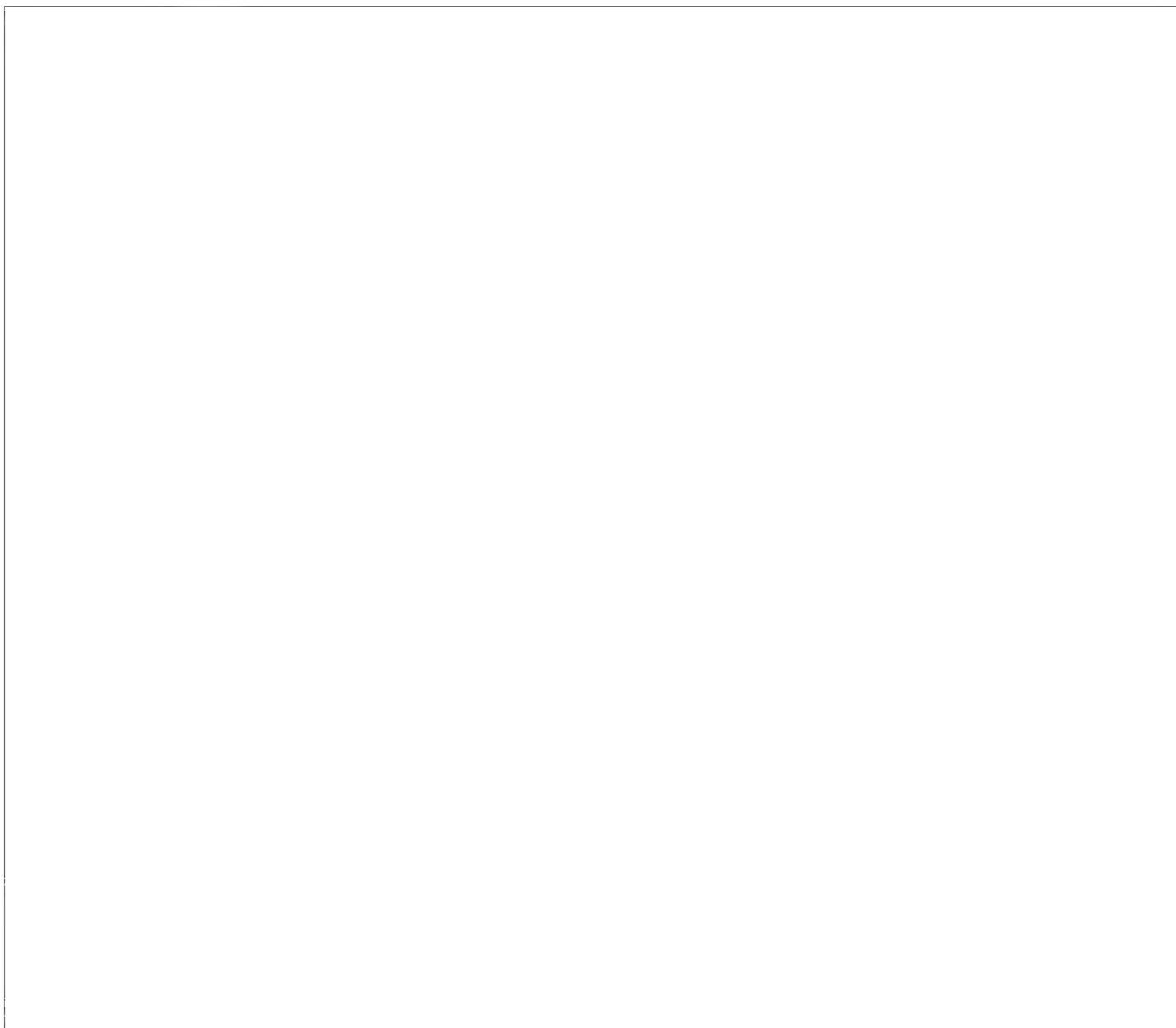


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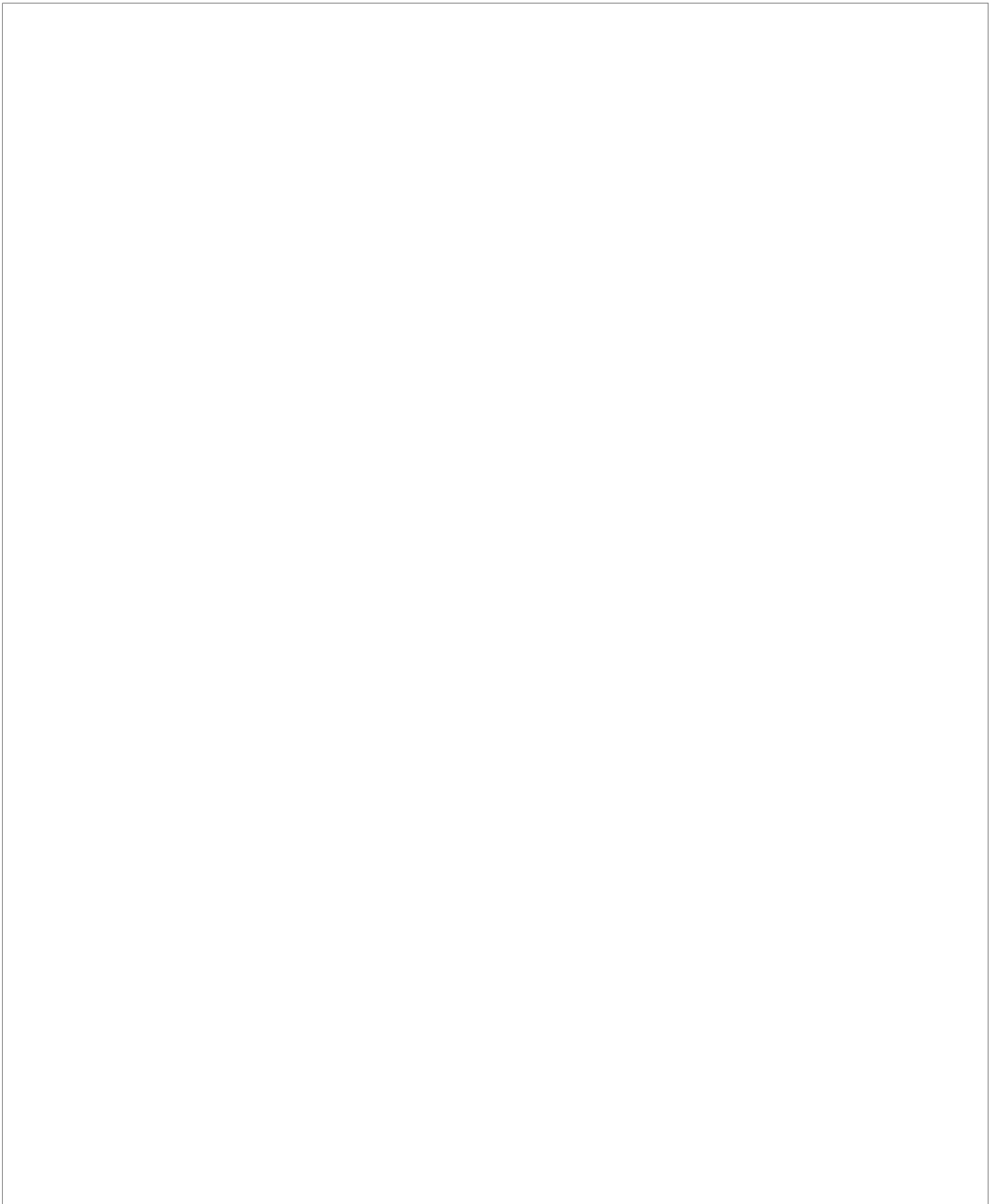








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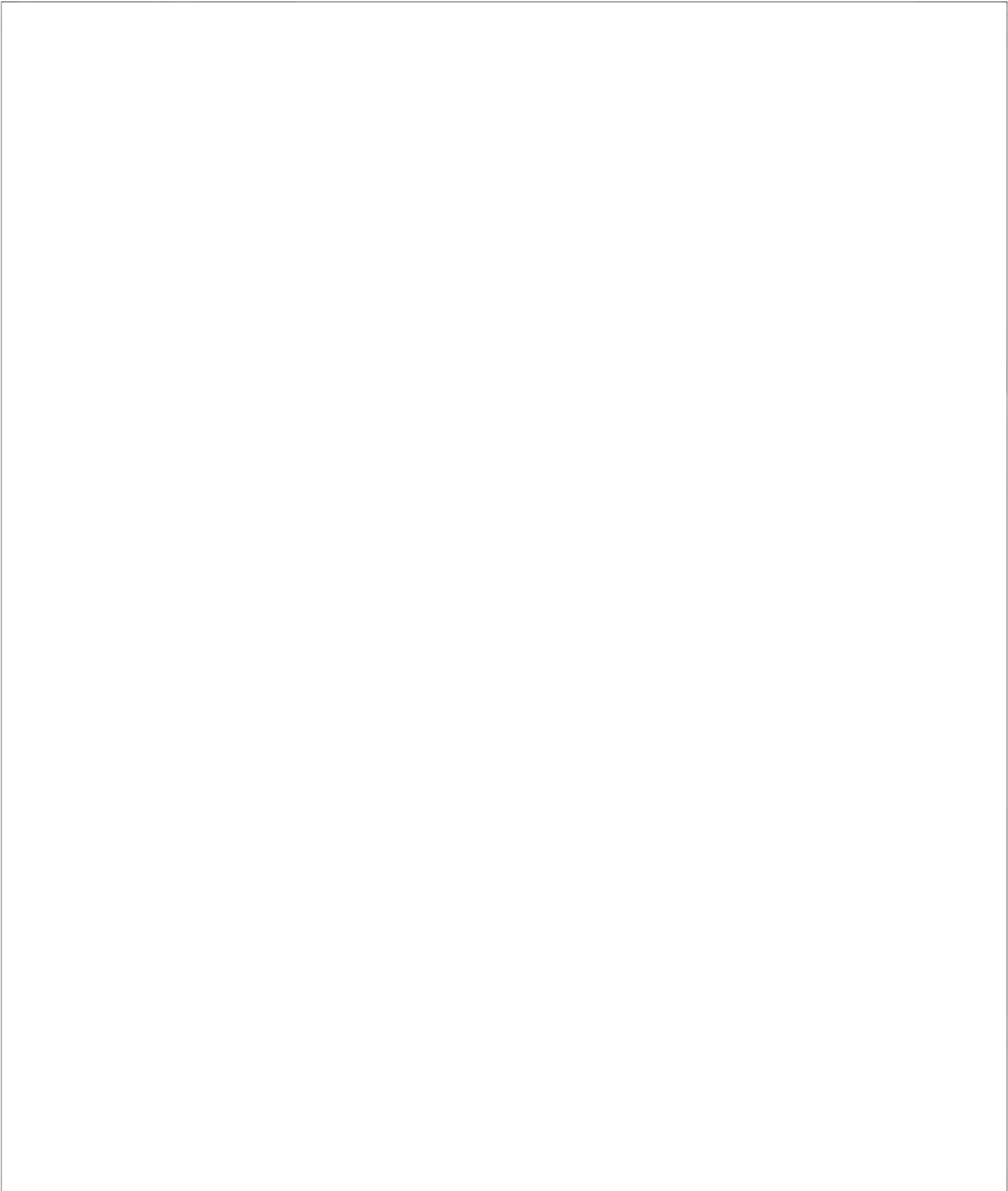


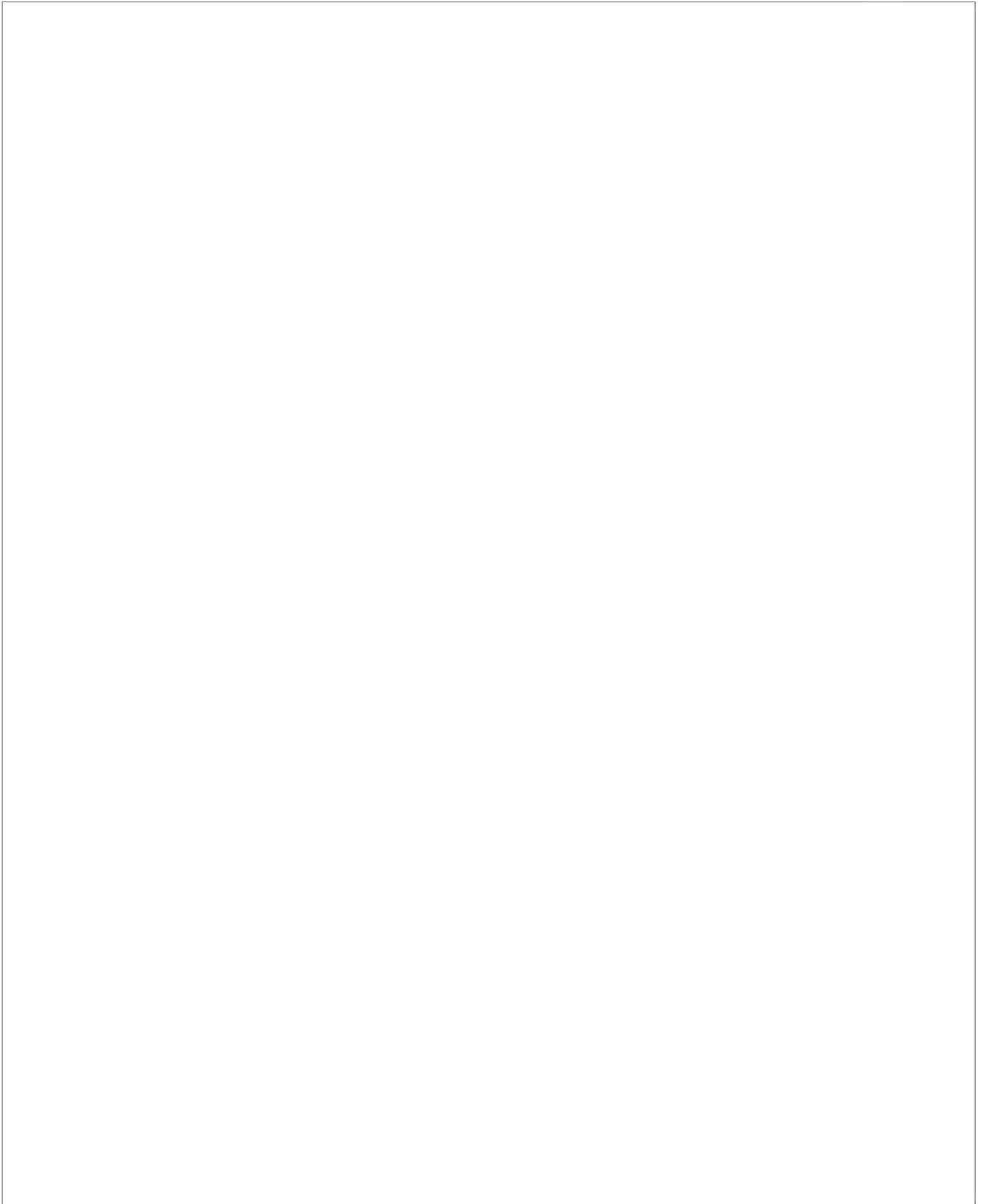
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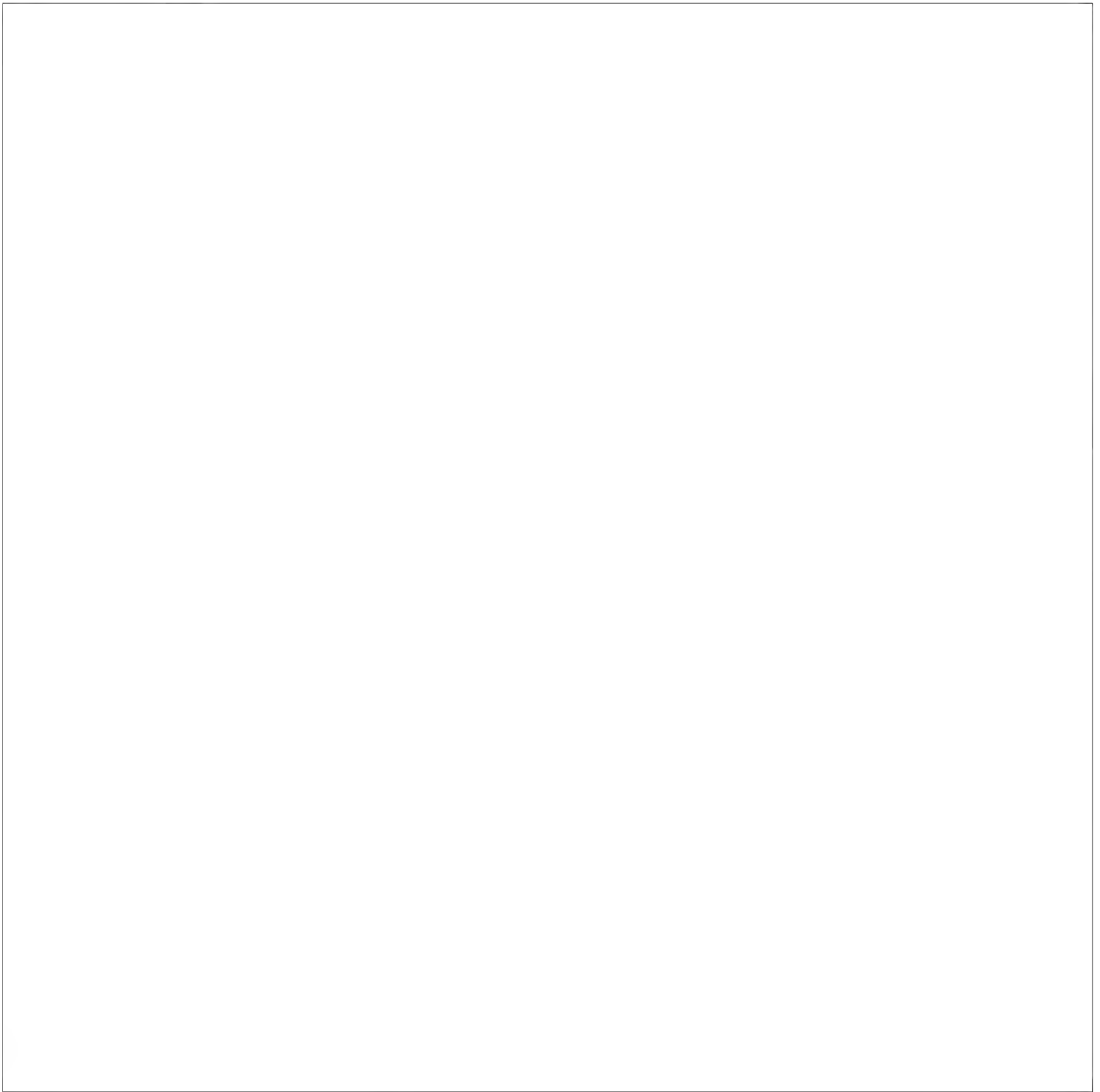
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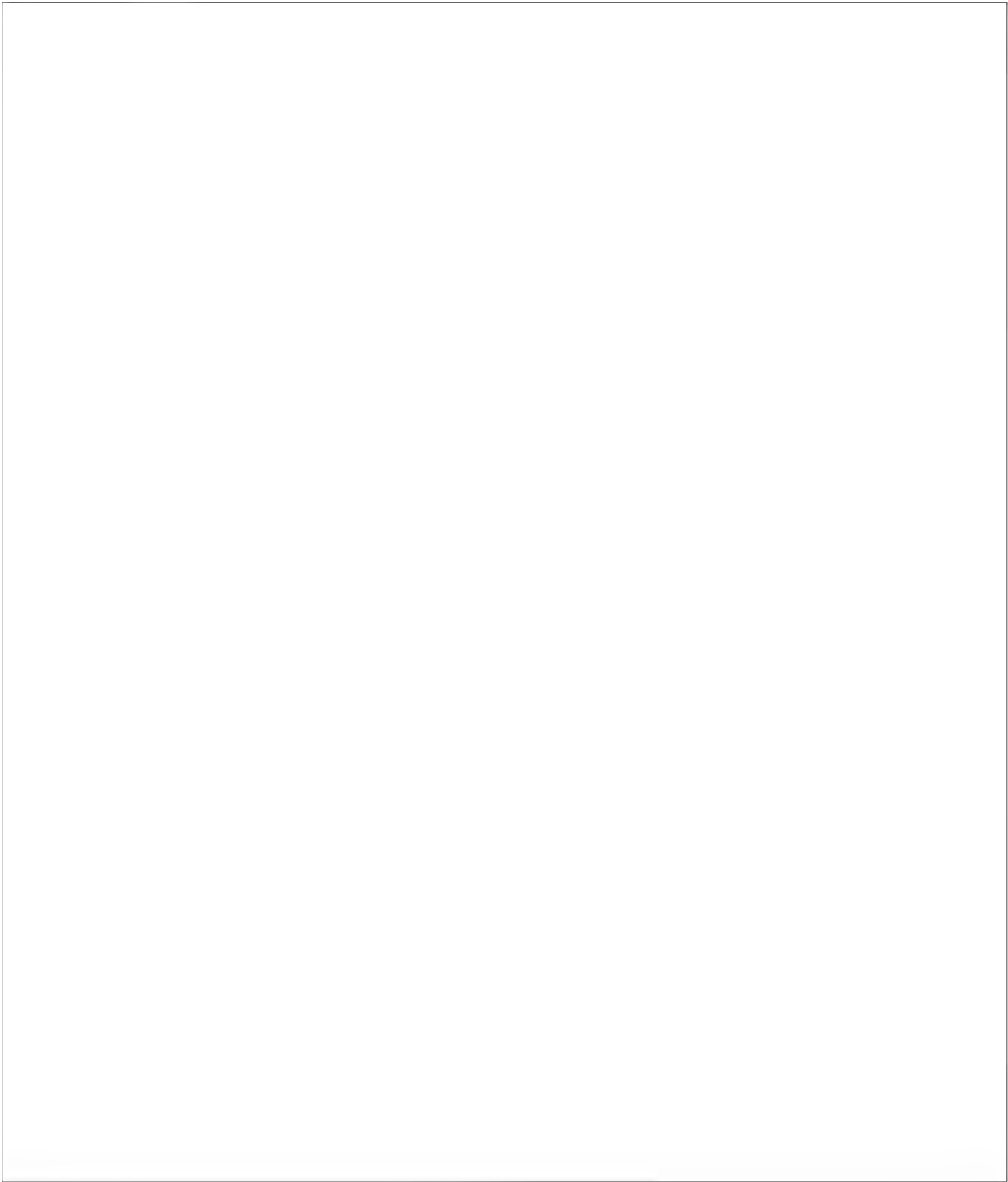
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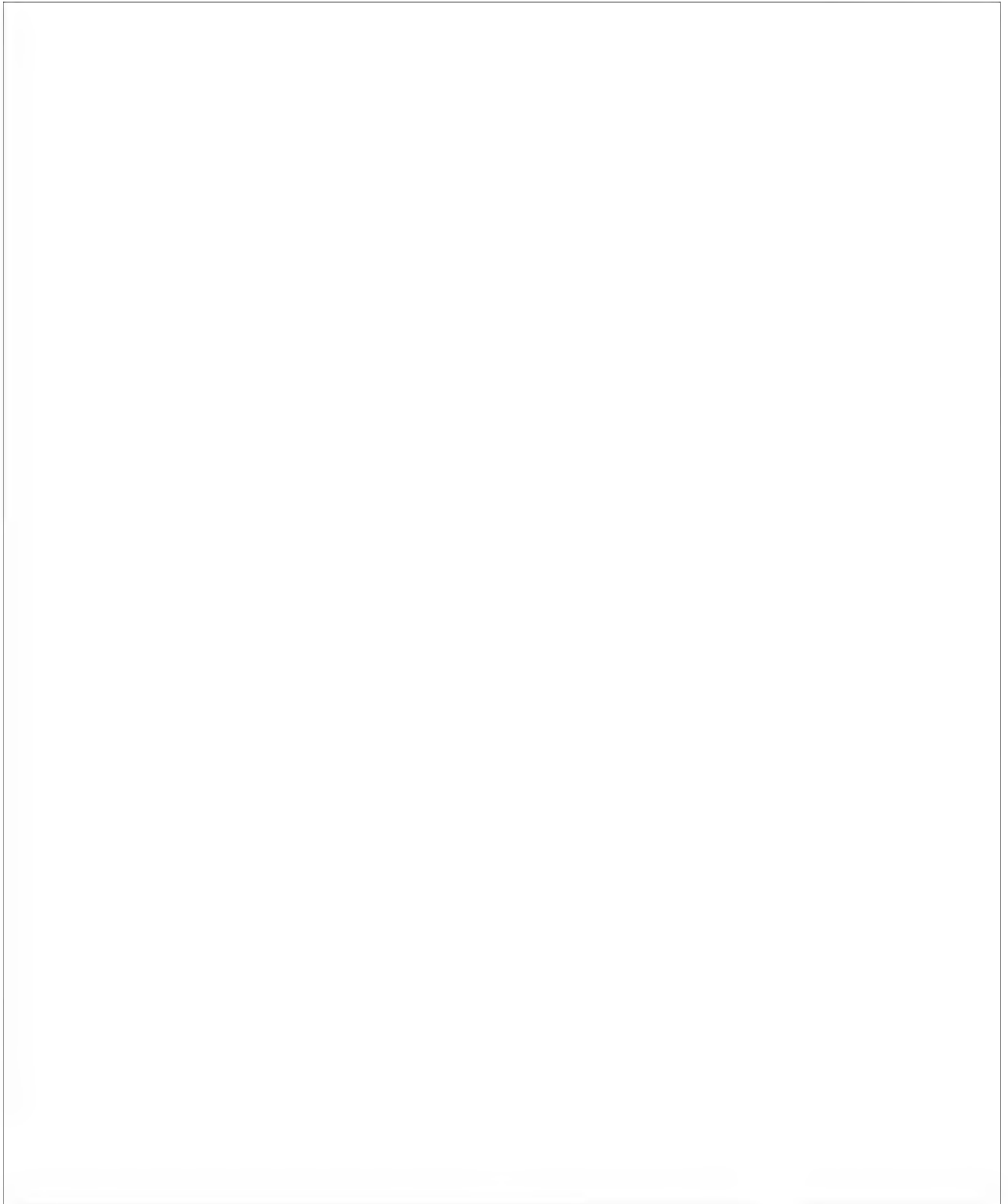




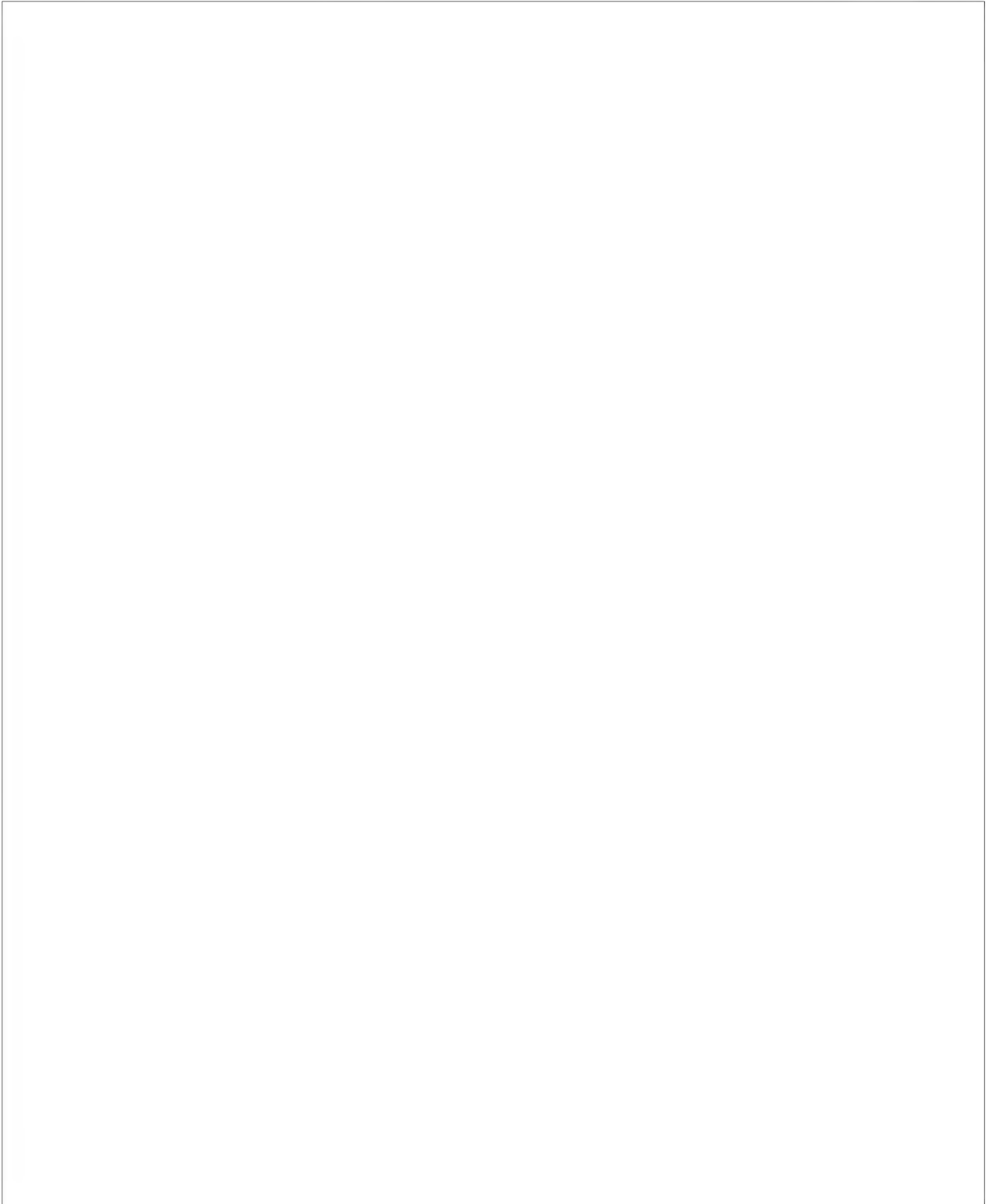


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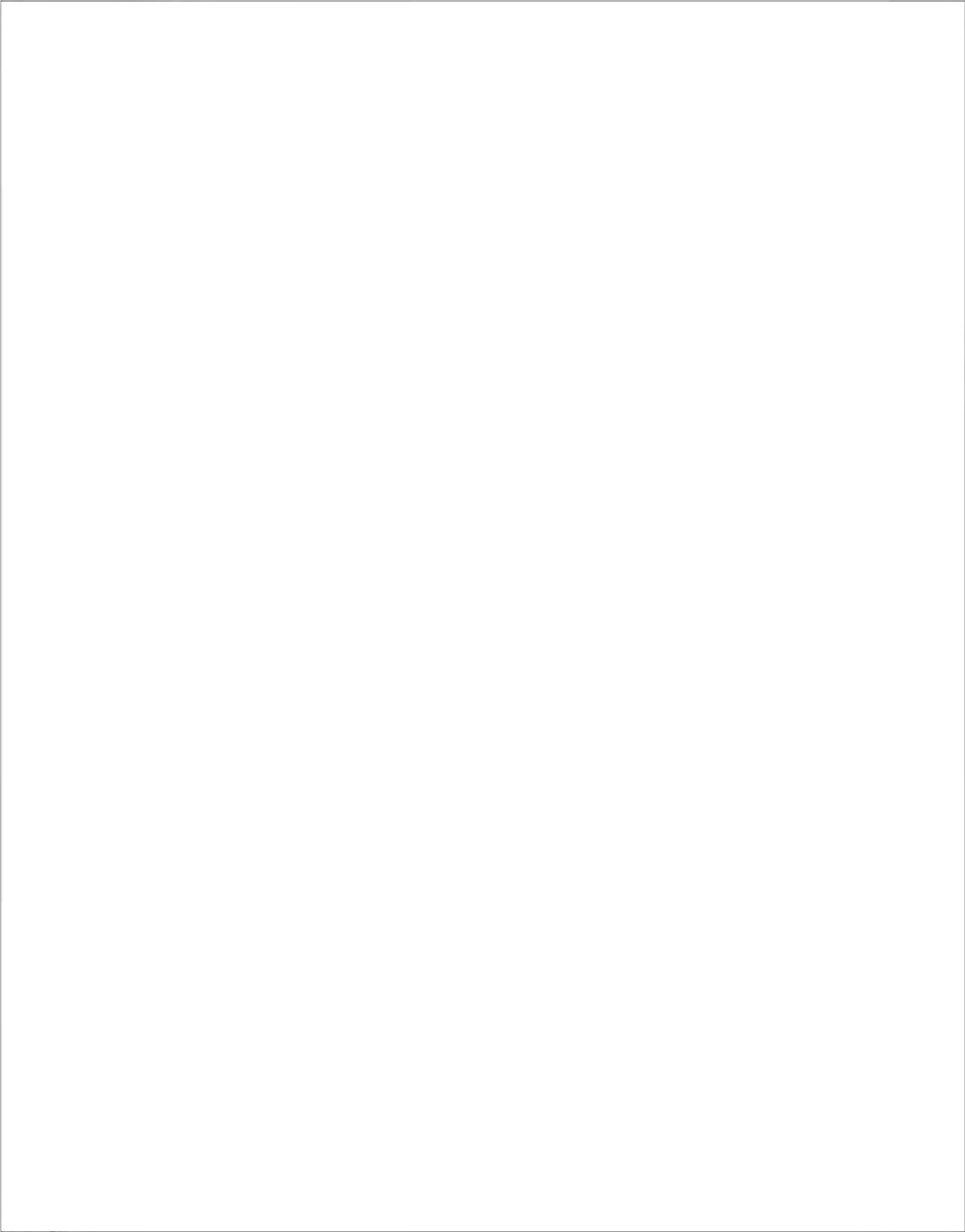






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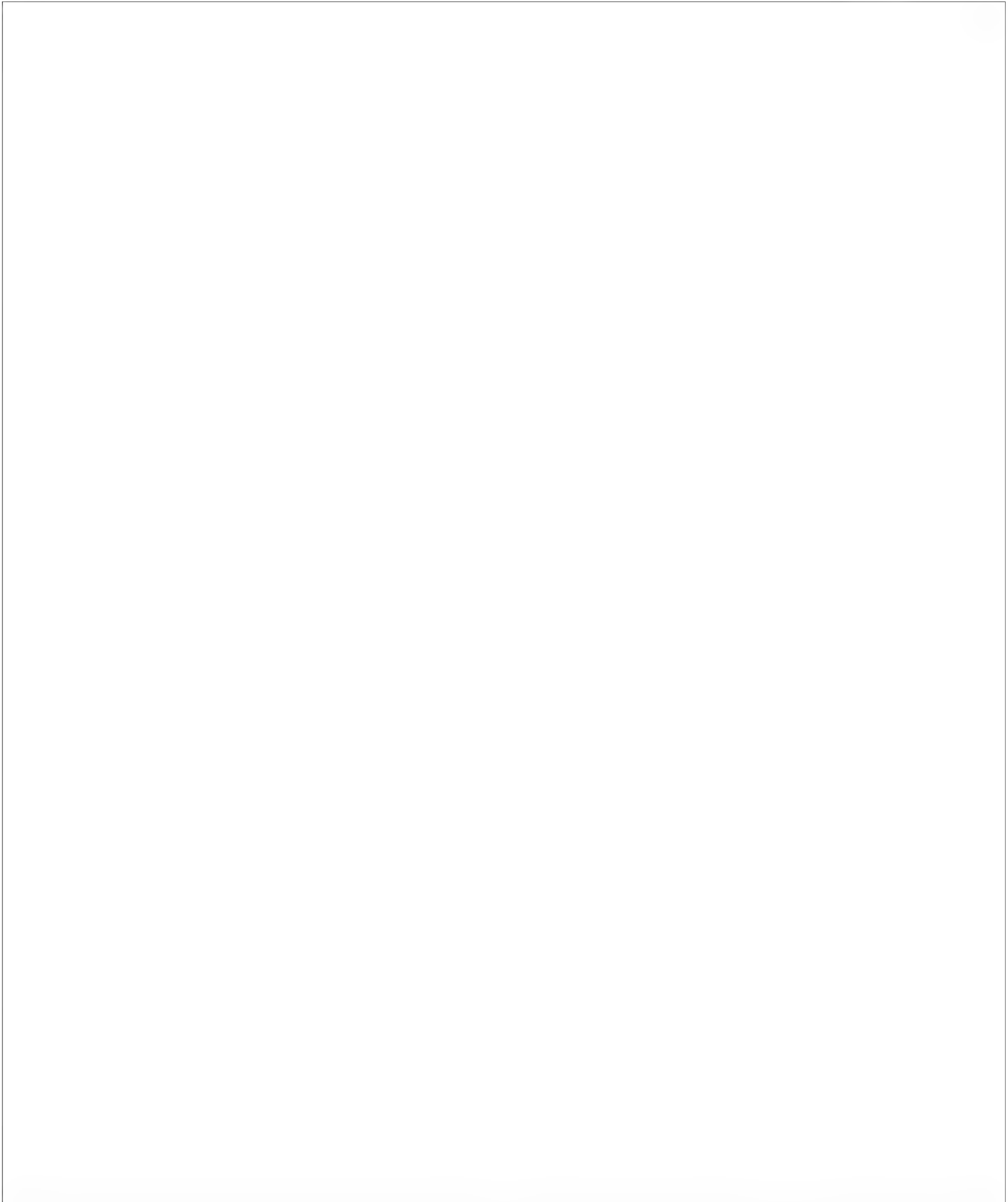


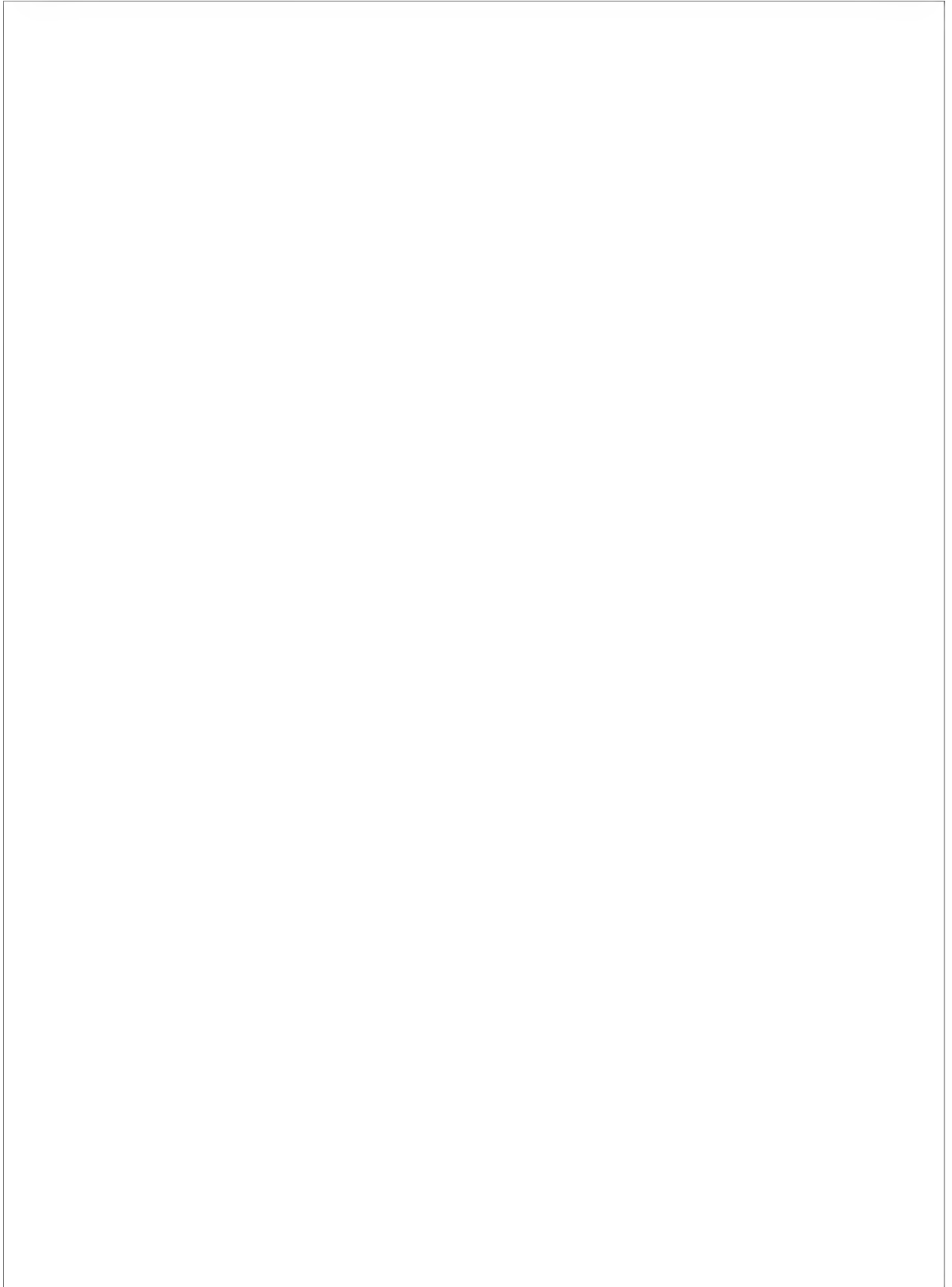
Highlights















The Terrorism Diary for January and February 1998

Below is a compendium of January and February dates of known or conceivable significance to terrorists around the world. Our inclusion of a date or event should not by itself be construed to suggest that we expect or anticipate a commemorative terrorist event.

<i>1 January 1956</i>	<i>Sudan.</i> Independence Day. Proclamation of republic.
<i>1 January 1965</i>	<i>Palestinians.</i> Palestinian revolution; founding of Fatah.
<i>5 January 1928</i>	<i>Pakistan.</i> Birthday of executed former President Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.
<i>5 January 1996</i>	<i>Palestinians.</i> Assassination of HAMAS bombmaker Yahyah Ayyash.
<i>6 January 1963</i>	<i>Colombia.</i> Founding of National Liberation Army (ELN).
<i>10 January 1997</i>	<i>Islamic World.</i> Beginning of the holy month of Ramadan.
<i>15 January 1918</i>	<i>Egypt.</i> Birthday of Jamal 'Abd al-Nasir.
<i>15 January 1922</i>	<i>Ireland.</i> Founding of Irish Free State.
<i>16 January 1979</i>	<i>Iran.</i> Departure of Shah from Iran.
<i>16 January 1991</i>	<i>Iraq, Kuwait.</i> Operation Desert Storm begins.
<i>17 January 1974</i>	<i>Colombia.</i> Nineteenth of April Movement (M-19) steals sword of Simon Bolivar from Bogota museum. Founding dates from this act.
<i>18 January 1974</i>	<i>Egypt, Israel.</i> Disengagement agreement signed.
<i>25 January 1993</i>	<i>United States.</i> Mir Aimal Kasi shoots and kills Dr. Lansing Bennett and Frank Darling and wounds three others in front of CIA Headquarters in Langley, Virginia.
<i>26 January 1950</i>	<i>India.</i> Republic Day (national day).
<i>30 January 1933</i>	<i>Germany.</i> Accession to power by Nationalist Socialist (Nazi) Party.
<i>30 January 1972</i>	<i>Northern Ireland.</i> Bloody Monday; 13 killed, 16 wounded during demonstration in Derry.
<i>1 February 1979</i>	<i>Iran.</i> Return of Ayatollah Khomeini to Iran from exile in Paris.
<i>1 February 1984</i>	<i>India.</i> Kashmir separatist leader Maqbool Butt executed.

3 February 1963	<i>Iraq.</i> Anniversary of Ba'th Revolution.
4 February 1948	<i>Sri Lanka.</i> Independence Day.
4 February 1979	<i>Iran.</i> Revolution Day.
7 February 1997	<i>Quds Day or Jerusalem Day.</i> Muslims protest Israeli occupation of Jerusalem. (Quds Day is commemorated on the last Friday of Ramadan, which ends on 8 February 1997.)
8 February 1963	<i>Iraq.</i> Revolution Day.
14 February 1979	<i>Iran.</i> Attack on US Embassy in Tehran; the Embassy was briefly occupied and the Ambassador briefly held.
19 February 1980	<i>Egypt, Israel.</i> Exchange of ambassadors.
22 February 1969	<i>Palestinians.</i> Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine founded.
25 February 1991	<i>Iraq.</i> Beginning of the ground war in Desert Storm.
26 February 1993	<i>United States.</i> World Trade Center bombing in New York City.



Chronology of International Terrorism

The following incidents were determined to meet the criteria for the Intelligence Community's Incident Review Panel since publication of the previous issue of the Terrorism Review. These incidents are the basis for the State Department's Patterns of Global Terrorism, which is published annually as the US Government's official record of international terrorism.

Asia

1 October *India: Three bombs exploded on a passenger train as it approached Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh, killing two passengers and injuring 38 others, including one Japanese and four Australian nationals.*

15 October *Sri Lanka: Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam cadre wearing suicide vests and armed with firearms and grenades drove an explosive-laden truck into the parking lot of a major hotel next to Colombo's new World Trade Center, killing 18 persons and injuring at least 110 others. Among the injured were seven US citizens and some 33 other foreign nationals. The blast severely damaged three international hotels and the World Trade Center, and destroyed all the cars in the parking lot.*

27 October *Philippines: Suspected Moro Islamic Front guerrillas kidnapped an Irish Roman Catholic priest in Marawi, demanding \$192,000 in ransom and the release of livelihood funds promised under the amnesty program. On 4 November the captors freed the priest.*

Eurasia

23 October *Russia: Twenty assailants entered the Chechnian headquarters of the Geneva-based Agency Action by Churches Together and kidnapped two Hungarian nationals, who were defusing mines at the request of the government.*

27 October *Bosnia-Herzegovina: A bomb exploded outside a Serbian Orthodox church under construction in Brcko. Items found at the scene suggest Hizballah involvement.*

Europe

13 October *Turkey: Nine Kurdistan Workers' Party terrorists kidnapped three engineers—two Bulgarians and one Turkish national—from a coal mine in Giresun. The kidnappers killed the Turkish hostage and released the Bulgarians on 16 October.*

Latin America

3 May

Colombia: National Liberation Army (ELN) rebels kidnapped a Brazilian construction worker. The ELN released the hostage on 15 October in Santa Marta. The construction company did not report whether it had paid any ransom. []

3 October

Colombia: ELN rebels bombed the Cano Limon-Covenas oil pipeline in Antioquia Department, causing a 5,000-barrel oil spill. []

11 October

Colombia: ELN rebels bombed the Cano Limon-Covenas oil pipeline in Saravena []

23 October

ELN guerrillas kidnapped two observer-members of the Organization of American States (OAS)—a Chilean national and a Guatemalan—and a Colombian human rights official at a roadblock in San Carlos. The ELN stated that the kidnapping was “to show the international community that the elections in Colombia are a farce,” and that the hostages would be released after the elections, but that a nationwide “armed strike” would aim to prevent the elections from being held. After demanding on 28 October that army checkpoints between Bogota and Medellin be lifted, La Pinuela base and Granada municipality be cleared, and army operations be halted for eight days from the time of the release, the ELN rebels released the OAS observers on 1 November. []

Middle East

29 September

Iraq: Gunmen opened fire on a UN convoy escorting Iraqi Kurd refugees returning home from Iran. The Kurdistan Workers’ Party (PKK) is suspected. []

6 October

Iraq: Gunmen opened fire on a United Nations World Food Program convoy near Shiladiza. The PKK may have been responsible. []

9 October

Jordan: Unknown assailants threw Molotov cocktails at the Israeli Embassy in Amman, causing minor damage. The Jordanian Resistance Movement may have been responsible. []

15 October

Yemen: Yemeni tribesmen kidnapped four French tourists in Saada. The tribesmen demanded the return of a car they claimed the government had confiscated because of lack of proper documentation. The kidnappers freed the hostages the next day. []

15 October

Yemen: Bani Dabian tribesmen kidnapped a British businessman and two Yemenis near Sumayr. The tribesmen demanded financial aid for their tribe and completion of electricity and water projects in the region. They released the hostages on 30 October.

22 October

Yemen: Al-Hadda tribesmen kidnapped two Russian doctors and their wives in the Zamar region to pressure the government into handing down death sentences to four residents who had raped a boy from their tribe. The tribesmen released the four hostages on 10 November.

30 October

Yemen: Al-Sha'if tribesmen kidnapped a US businessman near Sanaa. The tribesmen sought the release of two fellow tribesmen who had been arrested on smuggling charges and demanded several public works projects which they claimed the government had promised them. They released the hostage on 27 November.

Summary of Indigenous Terrorism—November 1997

The incidents and situations listed below are not a detailed accounting of all domestic terrorist incidents but rather provide an overview of selected indigenous terrorism worldwide.

Asia**India**

A bicycle bomb exploded on 1 November in the Karan Nagar area of Srinagar, Kashmir, injuring 10 persons. *Harakat ul-Ansar* claimed responsibility for the attack.

People's War Group Naxalites detonated a landmine in Andhra Pradesh on 17 November, killing at least seven policemen and wounding six others

Europe**Greece**

A bomb exploded on 2 November outside the branch office of the Greek Organization for Unemployment in Athens, causing minor damage. The *Revolutionary Popular Struggle* is suspected.

Spain

In Bilbao, assailants firebombed a train station, bank teller machines, a post office, and a police van on 1 November, during violent demonstrations in support of the Herri Batasuna political party and the *Basque Fatherland and Liberty (ETA)* organization.

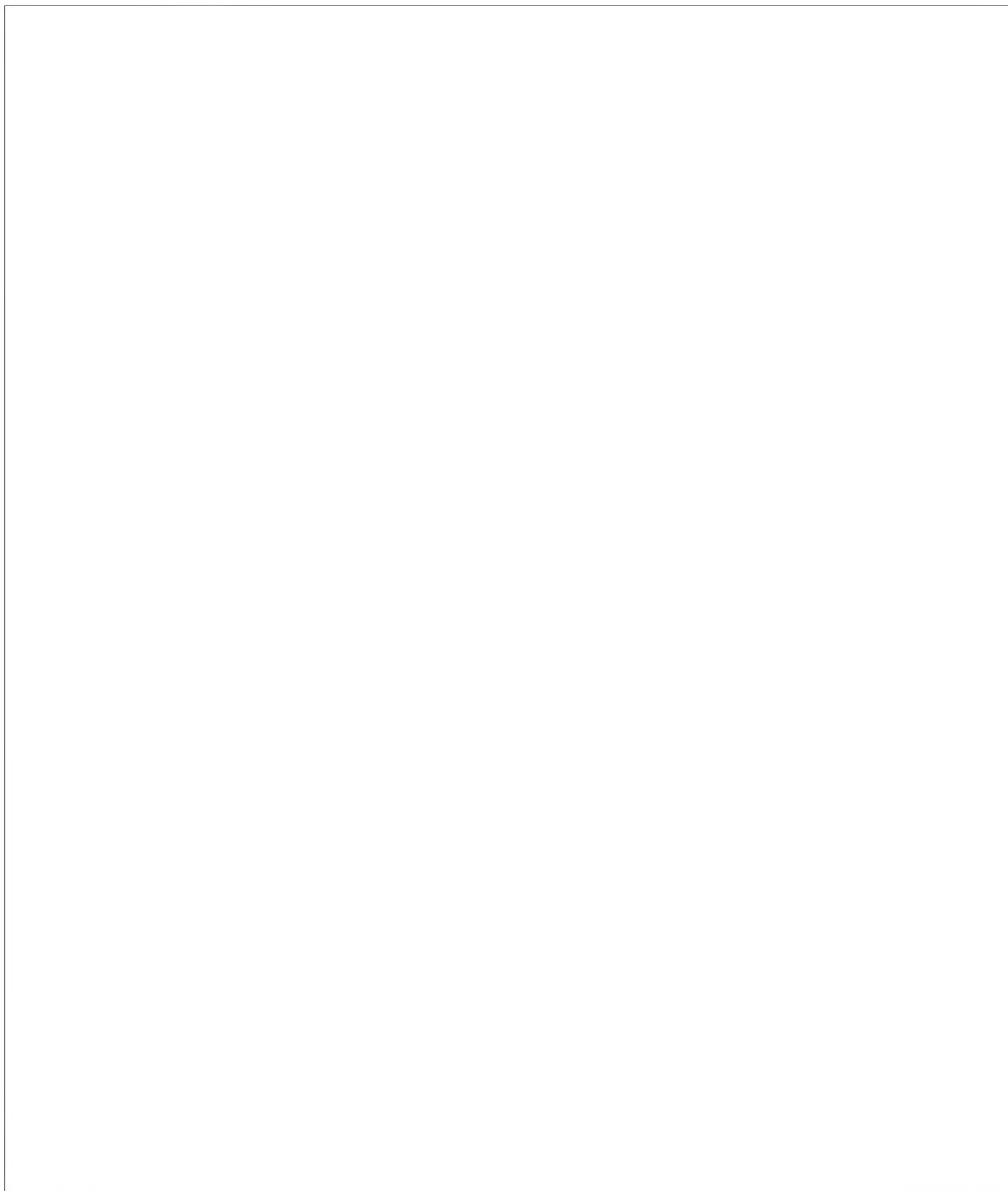
On 17 November an explosive device detonated outside a telephone company in Munguia, causing minor damage. No one claimed responsibility, but authorities suspect *ETA* involvement.

A bomb exploded at a bank in Pamplona on 29 November, causing minor damage but no injuries. The *ETA* is suspected.

Turkey

Kurdistan People's Liberation Army (ARGK) militants shot and killed four policemen during an attack in Diyarbakir on 2 November.

Armed militants stopped a minibus and kidnapped 13 persons between Lice and Diyarbakir on 4 November. Authorities freed 10 of the hostages and killed 10 militants on 5 November. The *Kurdistan Workers Party* or *ARGK* may have been responsible.



United Kingdom

Authorities defused an explosive device found outside the town hall in Belfast on 20 November. The *Irish Republican Army Continuity Army Council* claimed responsibility in a warning call to the media.

Latin America

Colombia

Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) rebels attacked the village of Corregimiento on 13 November, blowing up a banana-packing plant and killing two civic leaders.

Fifty *FARC* rebels ransacked and destroyed three banks in Popayan on 24 November.

Peru

Sendero Luminoso (SL) rebels detonated explosives in the town square in Amasca on 17 November. The rebels hung flags bearing *SL*'s hammer and sickle symbol and threatened to kill the top local authorities if they did not resign from their posts.

Middle East

Algeria

A bomb exploded in a market in Staoueli on 2 November, injuring 10 persons. The *Armed Islamic Group (GIA)* may have been responsible.

Two bombs exploded on 6 November at the Les Trois Horloges market in Bab El Oued, Algiers, injuring 12 persons. No one has claimed responsibility for the attack.

On 14 November a bomb exploded in a mosque south of Algiers, killing at least two persons and injuring 27 others. The *GIA* may have been responsible.

Egypt

Gunmen opened fire on a police car in Suhaj on 16 November, killing three police officers and wounding a fourth police officer and two civilians. *Al-Gama'at al-Islamiyya* was suspected.

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